LEO DROZDOFF, Administrator

(775) 687-4670 Administration Facsimile 687-5856

Water Quality Planning Water Pollution Control Facsimile 687-4684

Mining Regulation & Reclamation Facsimile 684-5259

State of Nevada KENNY C. GUINN Governor ALLEN BIAGGI, Director

Air Pollution Control Air Quality Planning Facsimile 687-6396

Waste Management Federal Facilities

Corrective Actions Facsimile 687-8335 NDEP.nv.gov

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138 Carson City, Nevada 89706

May 3, 2005

Notice of Decision

Water Pollution Control
Permit Number NEV2004109
For the Storm Underground Mine Project

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection has decided to issue Water Pollution Control Permit NEV2004109 to Barrick Gold Exploration Inc. This permit authorizes the construction, operation, and closure of the approved facilities. The Division has been provided with sufficient information, in accordance with NAC 445A.350 through NAC 445A.447, to assure the Division that the groundwater quality will not be degraded by this operation and that public safety and health will be protected.

This permit will become effective May 15, 2005. The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 445A.605 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.407. All requests for appeals must be filed by 5pm, May 10, 2005 on Form 3 with the State Environmental Commission, 333 West Nye Lane, Capitol Complex, Carson City, Nevada 89706. For more information, contact Bob Carlson at (775) 687-9401, toll free in Nevada at (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit the Bureau's website at http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm.

Comments were not received during the public notice period.